

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVES FUNDS FOR SUMMER JOBS

By: Ava Gutierrez

The Board of Supervisors recently authorized funding to create summer jobs for foster teens and young people in low-income homes.

The 2010 Summer Youth Employment Program will be open to youth ages 14-19 in CalWORKS and food stamp households; foster youth ages 14-19 living with a relative; foster youth transitioning to independence; and young adults, 18-24, receiving welfare payments from the county.

Those who qualify for jobs under the program will work an average of 180 hours at minimum wage. Available work includes clerical jobs and roles as maintenance workers, grounds keepers, child care assistants, teachers' aides and library assistants.

The funding, provided through the Department of Public Social Services, will cover program costs from May 1 –September 30, 2010. The Department of Community and Senior Services will administer the program in coordination with other workforce investment areas in the County .

Jobs for more than 6,100 youth have been created in Los Angeles County to date through the use of federal funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Summer Youth Program, proposed by Supervisors Don Knabe and Zev Yaroslavsky.